This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

What is claimed is:

1-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) A direct lever system for an engine, the system comprising:

a cylinder bore, the cylinder bore having an outer end;

a cam assembly having at least one cam surface and an axis inward of the outer end of the cylinder bore;

two valves having opened and closed positions;

two valve stems, each valve stem attached to one of the two valves;

a cylinder head substantially enclosing the outer end, the valves being seated in the cylinder head; and

two pivotably mounted valve-operating levers, at least one of the valve-operating levers including,

a connector member having a follower arm end defining a first reduced-diameter portion and a valve arm end defining a second reduced-diameter portion separate from the first reduced-diameter portion, the connector member defining a pivot axis about which the valve-operating lever pivots;

a follower arm including an aperture, a portion of the connector member engaging at least a portion of the follower arm adjacent the aperture to fixedly attach the

follower arm to the connector member, the follower arm having a cam follower surface in contact with the at least one cam surface; and

a valve arm including an aperture, a portion of the connector member engaging at least a portion of the valve arm adjacent the aperture to fixedly attach the valve arm to the connector member.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, wherein the follower arm aperture and the valve arm aperture are substantially circular.

24. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the valve arm is formed from a stamped metal.

25. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the connector member valve arm end includes a first stop.

26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 25, wherein the first stop includes a first shoulder at least partially defined by the first reduced-diameter portion.

27. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the valve arm defines a valve arm thickness and wherein the first reduced-diameter portion defines a first axial length that is at least as great as the valve arm thickness.

28. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein the connector member valve arm end includes a first stop integrally-formed as one piece with the connector member valve arm end.

29-30. (Canceled)

31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, wherein at least one of the follower arm aperture and the follower arm end of the connector member includes knurls.

32. (Original) The system of claim 22, wherein at least one of the valve arm aperture and the valve arm end of the connector member includes knurls.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, wherein the connector member follower arm end includes a follower arm end stop.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, wherein the follower arm end stop includes a second shoulder defined by a follower arm end reduced-diameter portion.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, wherein the follower arm defines a follower arm thickness and the second reduced-diameter portion defines a second axial length that is at least as great as the follower arm thickness.

36-64 (Canceled)

65. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, wherein the first reduced-diameter portion defines a first diameter having a first center and the second reduced-diameter portion defines a second diameter having a second center, the first center and the second center being substantially disposed on the pivot axis.

66-71. (Cancelled)